

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-20 HA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /102 W

-----011398 100128Z /70

R 091017Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9829

UNCLAS MANILA 13750

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, RP

SUBJECT: SUCCESSION: KBL CAUCUS UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSES

- MRS. MARCOS FOR DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

REF: MANILA 13573

1. THE 160 KBL PARTY MEMBERS IN THE INTERIM LEGISLATURE CAUCUSED AUGUST 8 AND PASSED A RESOLUTION UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSING MRS. MARCOS FOR THE POST OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER. (PRESIDENT/PRIME MINISTER MARCOS ANNOUNCED AUGUST 3 THAT THE AS-YET-UNNAMED DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WOULD BECOME TEMPORARY PRIME MINISTER UNDER A NEW SUCCESSION DECREE IN THE EVENT OF HIS DEATH OR INCAPACITY (MANILA 13457). MARCOS SAID AT THE TIME THAT HE WANTED TO OBTAIN A CONSENSUS OF THE KBL BEFORE FILLING THE POST.) A DELEGATION IS TO DELIVER THE RESOLUTION TO MARCOS AUGUST 9.

2. DURING THE CAUCUS DEBATE, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THREE RESPECTED FORMER SENATORS RAISED OBJECTIONS BEFORE FINALLY SIGNING THE RESOLUTION. ARTURO TOLENTINO SAID THE RESOLUTION WAS NOT IN KEEPING WITH MARCOS' PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON THE "VICIOUSNESS OF NEPOTISM AND EXCESSES OF POLITICAL DYNASTIES," CAUTIONED AGAINST "THE ILL EFFECTS

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OF SUCH AN APPOINTMENT ABROAD AND AMONG THE COMMON PEOPLE," AND SUGGESTED THAT A NATIONWIDE REFERENDUM WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE. EMMANUEL PELAEZ ASKED THAT ASSEMBLYMEN BE ALLOWED TO CONSULT THEIR CONSTITUENTS BEFORE SIGNING THE RESOLUTION. SALVADOR LAUREL SUGGESTED THAT THE KBL'S PREFERENCE BE RELAYED TO THE PRESIDENT ORALLY RATHER THAN IN WRITING.

3. THE ONLY PRESS COMMENT THUS FAR IS BY "DAILY EXPRESS"
COLUMNIST VALENCIA, WHO APPEARS LUKEWARM TO THE IDEA:
"THE MOST SOLID ARGUMENT FOR ENDORSING MRS. IMELDA R.
MARCOS...IS THAT THE APPOINTMENT WILL NOT CREATE ANY
TENSIONS OR SUSPICIONS WHILE THE PRESIDENT REMAINS
HEALTHY AND ABLE. THIS WILL MAKE FOR STABILITY AND
PEACE OF MIND FOR EVERYBODY, INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT.
...ANYHOW, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WILL ONLY SUCCEED
THE PRIME MINISTER TEMPORARILY IN ANY EVENT -- THE BP
STILL HAS THE POWER AND THE DUTY TO ELECT THE REAL
SUCCESSOR." MURPHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, PRESS COMMENTS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANILA13750
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780883/aaaacrha.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MANILA 13573
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1793343
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUCCESSION: KBL CAUCUS UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSES - MRS. MARCOS FOR DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
TAGS: PINT, RP, KBL, (MARCOS, IMELDA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/02e56d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014